

Course: UG (English)

Semester: IV

Paper Code: SEC 402

Paper name: Creative and Critical writing

Topic: Critical Writing

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Critical Writing

Key Components:

- Concept of Critical writing
- Principles of Critical writing
- Importance of Critical writing
- How to do a critical analysis of a poem

1. Concept of Critical writing

Critical writing requires evidence to make logical conclusions. In other words, it is writing showing analytical skills of a writer. A writer may select a topic and approach it in two manners: descriptive and critical ways. In descriptive manner, complete background information will be provided to approach the topic of research and in critical manner, analytical skills will be shown. The critical writing ensures that any argument should be approached from all angles. For example, as a critical reader and writer, you choose a topic, read different authors related to that topic and then present your writing taking into consideration the cumulative views of the authors you read related to the topic.

Critical writing takes into account the following:

- provides a clear account which refuses simply to accept what has been said by the other writers

- gives a balanced account of pros and cons of ideas
- gives a defined account of the appropriate facts and arguments
- backs up argument with facts
- always provides reasons for conclusion

The purpose of writing a critique is to evaluate a writer's work which can be a book, an article, an essay etc. thereby leading to increase the reader's understanding of it. This form of writing develops an argument or point of view by concrete evidence. It employs evidence to provide logical conclusions. A critical analysis can be referred as subjective writing because it expresses the writer's view or assessment of a text. The writer picks up a subject, see what other writers have said about it, decide whether or not he/she agrees with their opinion, and eventually tell the readers the reason to agree or disagree. In sum, one can say that a critical review is an evaluation of an academic text where a writer is asked to make judgements, positive or negative, about the text.

2. Principles of Critical writing

- Reading is primary in order to write better- It makes your analytical thinking skills stronger.
- Careful selection of words- Words should be well-selected according to the context.
- Clarity in writing- The words should be logically organized and sentences should be well- constructed.
- Correct information- There should be a sense of preciseness in one's writing. Writing should be grammatically correct.
- Develop one's own interpretation- A strong analysis of a particular piece of writing is required to develop one's way of explaining things from one's perspective.
- Stay focused- Focus is the key.
- Edit and proofread the document-Focus on techniques of editing and proofreading that is focusing on surface errors in grammar and punctuation.

3. Importance of Critical writing

Critical writing is extremely important for school and college students, writers and people involved in blogging content. It provides writers ways to explain their points with evidence. In other words, it makes them analytical and expressive. In order to write better, one must read a lot. Reading is primary to gain knowledge. Therefore Critical writing enables a person to read a lot and gather information to present one's evidence and argument leading to conclusion.

4. How to do a critical analysis of a poem:

- Read the poem
- Know the speakers
- Identify the main theme of the poem
- Establish the context
- Identify inter-textuality
- Identify the genre of the poem
- Create a checklist for your critical analysis
- Review the poem's plot
- Analyze the poem's rhyme scheme
- Analyse the format
- Analyse the used figurative language
- Write the analysis

References:

Print Source

Goatly, A. *Critical Reading and Writing An introductory coursebook*: Routledge, 2000.
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